

REPORT

&c. &c.

THE Special Committee to whom was referred that part of His Excellency's Speech which relates to the organization of the Militia, to report by Bill or otherwise, with an instruction to enquire into all Laws which may now be in force or alledged to be in force concerning the Militia, and also into its present state, and to report their observations and opinions thereon to the House :

REPORT IN PART :

That they have proceeded to make such enquiries in obedience to the said order of reference as appeared to them to be the most necessary for the discharge of the duties imposed upon them by your honorable House ; and they refer to the minutes of evidence hereunto annexed, the Laws of the Province, and the Journals of the Legislature, for the grounds of the observations and opinions which they now most respectfully submit:

The first Legislative provision for regulating the Militia of this Province since it became part of His Majesty's Dominions, appears to have been ordained and enacted on the 23d April 1787, by the Governor, and Legislative Council of the Province, constituted and appointed by His Majesty under the 12th Clause of an Act passed by the Parliament of Great-Britain in 1774, for making more effectual Provision for the Government of the then Province of Quebec, which Act vested the said Council with power to make Ordinances for the peace, welfare and good government of the Province, with the consent of His Majesty's Governor, for the time being, under certain restrictions set forth in the said Act. To this Ordinance was added another, by the same authority, to explain and amend the foregoing, dated 30th April 1789.